Ms. Cynthia T. Brown Chief, Section of Administration Office of Proceedings Surface Transportation Board 395 E Street, SW Washington, D.C. 20423 229818

Dear Ms. Brown:

I am writing to urge the Surface Transportation Board to make a finding that there is a profound lack of rail-to-rail competition in the national rail system. The STB should change its policies to enable increased rail-to-rail competition.

Thank you.

Joel Orthmann North West Rural Electric Cooperative 604 Sanborn St. Sanborn, IA 51248

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